



## **Essex County Council Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 14, 2019**

**7:00 PM**

**Council Chambers, 2nd Floor**

**360 Fairview Avenue West**

**Essex, Ontario N8M 1Y6**

**519-776-6441, ext. 1335**

- Council:
- Gary McNamara, Warden, Mayor, Town of Tecumseh
  - Joe Bachetti, Deputy Mayor, Town of Tecumseh
  - Tracey Bailey, Deputy Mayor, Town of Lakeshore
  - Tom Bain, Mayor, Town of Lakeshore
  - Marc Bondy, Mayor, Town of LaSalle
  - Hilda MacDonald, Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
  - Crystal Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of LaSalle
  - Leo Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
  - Richard Meloche, Deputy Mayor, Town of Essex
  - Michael Prue, Alternate County Councillor, Town of Amherstburg
  - Nelson Santos, Deputy Warden, Mayor, Town of Kingsville
  - Gord Queen, Deputy Mayor, Town of Kingsville
  - Larry Snively, Mayor, Town of Essex
  - Larry Verbeke, Deputy Mayor, Municipality of Leamington
- Absent:
- Aldo DiCarlo, Mayor, Town of Amherstburg
- Administration:
- Mary Birch, Director of Council & Community Services/Clerk
  - Jayne Brooks Keller, Director of Nursing, Sun Parlor Home
  - Robin Greenall, CEO/Chief Librarian, Essex County Library
  - Katherine Hebert, Council & Community Services Administrative Assistant
  - Bruce Krauter, Chief, Essex Windsor EMS
  - Rob Maisonville, Chief Administrative Officer
  - Sandra Zwiers, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer

### **1. Closed Meeting**

A Closed meeting of County Council was held at 6:45 PM.

**145-2019**

**Moved By** Leo Meloche

**Seconded By** Marc Bondy

That Council move into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 239 (2) (b) and (d) of the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended for the following reason(s):

- personal matters about an identifiable individual; and
- labour relations matters.

**Carried**

**148-2019**

**Moved By** Gord Queen

**Seconded By** Larry Verbeke

That Council rise from the Closed Meeting at 6:55 PM.

**Carried**

**2. Moment of Reflection**

**3. Singing of 'O Canada'**

**4. Recording of Attendance**

All members of Council were present with the exception of Aldo DiCarlo. Michael Prue, Councillor of the Town of Amherstburg was present as Mr. DiCarlo's alternate.

**5. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no conflicts of pecuniary interest declared.

**6. Adoption of Regular Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of July 17, 2019

**149-2019**

**Moved By** Tracey Bailey

**Seconded By** Joe Bachetti

That the minutes of the July 17, 2019 Regular Meeting of Essex County Council be adopted as presented.

**Carried**

## **7. County Warden's Welcome and Remarks**

Warden McNamara welcomed members of Council, Administration and members of the public.

Warden McNamara acknowledged the long-time member of Town of Lakeshore Council, former Mayor, Reeve, Councillor and member of County Council, Robert Croft who had recently passed away. He acknowledged that he was a dedicated member of the community and that County Council extended to his family comfort during this difficult time.

He also acknowledged the members of Council for their presence at the recent Highway 3 announcement. He noted that many County Councillors had been advocating for a long time for improvements to that section of Highway 3. He further advised that County Administration had already started discussions with MTO staff on the matter.

The Warden congratulated the Essex County Library Board and the Municipality of Leamington and its' Council on the grand opening of their newly renovated library facility. He stated that the modern hub would be a gathering space for members of the community, residents and visitors to partake in programs, activities and also to utilize for the love of reading.

## **8. Delegations and Presentations**

### **8.1 Windsor Essex Local Immigration Partnership (WE LIP)**

Mary Ellen Bernard, Manager, Social Policy and Planning/Project Manager, Michelle Suchiu and Marian George, WE LIP team members, to speak to County Council regarding the increasing number of immigrants who are choosing to relocate in the County.

**150-2019**

**Moved By** Tom Bain

**Seconded By** Larry Snively

That Ms. Bernard, Ms. Suchiu and Ms. George be permitted to address County Council.

**Carried**

Mary Ellen Bernard and Michelle Suchiu discussed the ten years of collaborative work that had taken place through the WELIP organization. They outlined the importance of partnerships with all levels of government, local committees and community groups in the success of the integration of immigrants into this region, while maintaining focus on the goals and strategic vision of WELIP.

Ms. MacDonald expressed appreciation for the work of the WELIP organization. She further expressed that there was a matter of serious concern in Leamington with regard to the lack of appropriate housing in general. She expressed that their municipality was asking that no further placements of new immigrants be made until such time as additional, appropriate housing could be made available through the proper channels. She further noted that in general, affordable housing was at crisis levels and there was a need for follow-up by the placement agencies to ensure that the immigrants that are being placed have adequate living space, in clean and safe homes.

Ms. Suchiu expressed that WELIP would be happy to reach out and work with the municipality and community partners to ensure that their concerns were addressed.

The Warden expressed that there were government grants available to support affordable housing and all municipalities that are facing this issue ought to explore those applications. He further noted that there was a sector of the population that was being left behind in the municipalities with development being focused on suburban development and less so on multi-residential or affordable housing. He stated that these types of housing needs must be considered by local governments in their strategic and official plans.

Warden McNamara thanked the delegation and offered congratulations to the WELIP on their ten year anniversary.

## **8.2 Windsor-Essex County Health Unit**

Dr. Wajid Ahmed, Medical Officer of Health, and Windsor Essex County Opioid and Substance Strategy (WECOSS) Leadership Committee Co-Chair and Eric Nadalin, Manager of Chronic Disease, to speak to County Council regarding the WECOSS Leadership Committee.

### **151-2019**

**Moved By** Larry Verbeke

**Seconded By** Gord Queen

That Dr. Ahmed and Mr. Nadalin be permitted to address County Council.

**Carried**

Dr. Wajid Ahmed and Eric Nadalin presented information regarding the issue of addiction in this community. They advised that local partnerships and committee outreach had been at the forefront of the strategy and action plan to prevent addiction and reduce associated harms within the region. They indicated that the action plan involved resources for education, identification of issues, prevention of substance abuse and harm reduction and that the resources were targeted at various groups from youth to parents and medical professionals.

Discussion took place with regard to the underlying causes of addiction, such as mental health issues and homelessness in addition to many other reasons and it was noted that efforts to address the causes of these issues up front rather than focusing on remediation of the problem would better address the issue over the long term.

Dr. Ahmed expressed that the education piece of the program was of utmost importance, but also immediately important at the crisis stage was harm reduction.

Warden McNamara questioned what the single biggest implementation project would be if there was adequate funding available?

Dr. Ahmed noted that having a central hub to house, educate and treat those who need it would be paramount to breaking the cycle of addiction.

The Warden noted that there was a huge strain on medical resources (EMS, hospitals, etc.) and added pressures from dealing with drug and addiction issues. He expressed that meaningful discussion and a re-purposing of funding from upper levels of government was necessary to ensure that adequate support for the services was provided within the region.

### **8.3 Windsor & District Labour Council**

Mr. Brian Hogan, Windsor & District Labour Council and Ms. Tamara Kowalska, Poverty Activist, to speak to County Council regarding funding cuts to homelessness programs.

**152-2019**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Joe Bachetti

That Mr. Hogan and Ms. Kowalska be permitted to address County Council.

**Carried**

Mr. Brian Hogan and Ms. Tamara Kowalska, presented information about various social issues and specifically homelessness within the region. They emphasized the need for funding to put in place programs and housing for those living in poverty and facing homelessness in Windsor and Essex County. They expressed concern with Provincial funding cuts to social programs and stated that the lack of housing could be correlated to the inability to be employed and that a lack of housing could be directly related to issues of mental health as well as addiction.

The Warden thanked the delegation for their informative presentation and noted that the burden of responsibility to prevent poverty and homelessness lies with all levels of government. He noted the importance and urgency of getting the new hospital built and opened so that plans for an adequate mental health facility could also proceed and address some of these very important issues.

**9. Communications**

**9.1 Correspondence**

**153-2019**

**Moved By** Crystal Meloche

**Seconded By** Leo Meloche

That the correspondence listed on the regular agenda for August 14, 2019 be received and any noted action approved.

**Carried**

**9.1.1 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)**

View the latest online versions of the [AMO WatchFile Newsletter](#).

**9.1.2 AMO**

Received e-mailed Notice of the 2019 Annual General Meeting of AMO, scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2019.

**9.1.3 AMO**

Received e-mailed AMO Communications, dated July 25, 2019 regarding "Seeking Municipal Government Initiatives You Want to Brag About".

**9.1.4 AMO**

Received e-mailed AMO Communications, dated August 7, 2019 regarding Save the Date: AMO's Fall Policy Forum: London, October 24 and 25, 2019.

**9.1.5 AMO**

Received e-mail from AMO, dated August 9, 2019 referring to a Policy Update regarding "Special Advisor's Report on Blue Box Transition Released".

**9.1.6 Ontario Good Roads Association**

View the online latest version of the OGRA Heads UP Alert regarding "New Report Demonstrates Need for Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Reform".

OGRA Heads UP Alert

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**9.1.7 Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (GLSLCI)**

View the online version of GLSLCI Making Waves, dated June 2019 regarding Cities Initiative News and Updates.

**9.1.8 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)**

Received e-mailed ROMA Update referring to a Notice of a Special General Meeting of ROMA at the 2019 AMO Conference to ratify Zone representation changes.

**9.1.9 WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation (WEEDC)**

Received e-mail, dated July 29, 2019 stating that WEEDC will be hosting the Emerging Technologies in Automation Conference & Trade Show, Tuesday, September 10, 2019 Caesars Windsor.

**9.1.10 Windsor-Essex County Health Unit**

Received correspondence, for information only, dated May 2019 from Gary McNamara, Chair, Board of Health and Theresa Marentette, Chief Executive Officer supporting the ongoing public health led assessment of the need for a feasibility of Consumption and Treatment Services.

**9.1.11 Windsor-Essex Compassion Care Community (WECCC)**

Received e-mailed copy of the July 2019 Edition of the WECCC Newsletter.

**9.1.12 Town of Tecumseh**

Received e-mailed correspondence, dated July 19, 2019 from Laura Moy, Director Corporate Services & Clerk referring to Tecumseh Council's resolution regarding Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms.

**9.1.13 Town of Halton Hills**

Received e-mailed correspondence, dated July 8, 2019 referring to Halton Hills Council's resolution regarding Reducing Litter and Waste in Our Communities.

**9.1.14 Municipality of Neebing**

Received e-mailed correspondence from Rosalie Evens Solicitor-Clerk, dated July 18, 2019 referring to Neebing Council's resolution regarding Lake of Bays' May 21st resolution on Ontario Municipal Partnership Funding.

**9.1.15 Township of McKellar**

Received e-mailed copy of correspondence addressed to Premier Doug Ford, from Tammy Wylie, Clerk Administrator referring to McKellar Council's resolution regarding municipal amalgamations.

**9.2 Resolutions**

There were no resolutions for the consideration of County Council.



**10. Consent Agenda**

**154-2019**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Nelson Santos

That the recommendation in the Administrative Report listed as item 10.1, on the Consent Agenda for August 14, 2019, be approved.

**Carried**

**10.1 Approval of Invoices - Legal/Consulting Services**

Report Number 2019-0814-ADM-R11-RM, dated August 14, 2019 from Robert Maisonville, Chief Administrative Officer.

**11. Reports and Questions**

**11.1 Essex County Library Board**

Minutes of the Essex County Library Board for May 22, 2019 and June 26, 2019, Chair Nelson Santos.

**155-2019**

**Moved By** Nelson Santos

**Seconded By** Tracey Bailey

That the minutes of the Essex County Library Board for May 22, 2019 and June 26, 2019 be received.

**Carried**

**11.2 Essex County Accessibility Advisory Committee (ECAAC)**

Minutes of the ECAAC meeting held July 11, 2019, Gord Queen, Vice Chair.

Mr. Queen invited members of Council to the Accessibility Advisory Committee - Celebrate Our Abilities Walk taking place on September 14, 2019 at 11:00AM in LaSalle.

**156-2019**

**Moved By** Gord Queen

**Seconded By** Marc Bondy

That the minutes of the ECAAC meeting for July 11, 2019 be approved.

**Carried**

**11.3 Amendment to Central Emergency Reporting Bureau (CERB) Services Agreement to Remove Amherstburg**

Report Number 2019-0814-CSS-R006-MB, dated August 14, 2019 from Mary Birch, Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk.

**157-2019**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Nelson Santos

That Essex County Council adopt By-law 30-2019 authorizing the execution of an amending agreement with the OPP to remove the Town of Amherstburg from the calculation of costs for Central Emergency Reporting Bureau Services, effective August 1, 2019.

**Carried**

**11.4 Hydro One Easement at EWSWA Transfer Station #2**

EWSWA Report, dated August 14, 2019 from Eli Maodus, General Manager, Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority.

**158-2019**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Hilda MacDonald

That the Council of the County of Essex approve entering into an agreement with Hydro One allowing Hydro One Networks Inc. access to land at the Essex-Windsor Solid Waste Authority's Transfer Station #2 to place two anchors to which guy wires would be secured.

**Carried**

**11.5 Federal Gas Tax Revised Payment Schedule**

Report Number 2019-0814-FIN-R015-SZ, dated August 14, 2019 from Sandra Zwiers, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer.

Ms. Zwiers provided an update to the previously reported Federal Gas Tax payment schedule. She noted that there was a greater than estimated amount in the County of Essex apportionment and therefore the amounts payable to each lower tier would be amended to reflect the change.

**159-2019**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Leo Meloche

That County Council approve the revised Schedule A indicating the amended Federal Gas Tax Distribution for 2019 and approve By-law 32-2019, which amends By-law 22-2019.

**Carried**

**11.6 Projected Results of Operations 2019**

Report Number 2019-0814-FIN-R017-SZ, dated August 14, 2019 from Sandra Zwiers, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer.

Ms. Zwiers summarized the 2019 budget projections for Council and noted that the projections were based on the best estimate and educated assumptions for each department. She further noted that the challenge in reporting was the uncertainty in some areas as it relates to the provincial funding levels and recent announcements that have taken place with the greatest impact of these announcements being in social services and emergency medical services.

Leo Meloche questioned whether the provincial cuts were anticipated to impact the number of subsidized beds in the Housing with Supports program?

Ms. Birch advised that although the current number of beds was lower than the standard 226, the reduction was due to a shortage of capacity in the homes and not related to funding reductions and that once the capacity issue was resolved, it was anticipated that the number of subsidized beds would return to average levels.

**160-2019**

**Moved By** Leo Meloche

**Seconded By** Crystal Meloche

That County Council receive the Results of Operations Report 2019 for information.

**Carried**

### **11.7 Road User Agreement - Romney Wind Farm**

Report Number 2019-0814-IS-R023-JM, dated August 14, 2019 from Jane Mustac, Director of Infrastructure Services/County Engineer.

Ms. Mustac provided a summary of the road conditions resulting from the Romney Wind Farm usage. She noted that the road was scheduled for maintenance, and thus would advance the timeline to address the current condition. She noted that the Romney Wind Farm had agreed to a payment of \$350,000 to the County to account for their part in the advanced deterioration.

**161-2019**

**Moved By** Marc Bondy

**Seconded By** Gord Queen

That County Council authorize the execution of By-law Number 29-2019 to enter into a Road User Agreement with Romney Energy Centre Limited.

**Carried**

### **11.8 Tender Summary - 2019 CWATS Paving Project on County Road 2**

Report Number 2019-0814-IS-R021-JM, dated August 14, 2019 from Jane Mustac, Director of Infrastructure Services/County Engineer.

Ms. Mustac discussed the report summary, the paving project, the tender process and the bid results. She noted that the bids received were within the engineer's estimate and the Town of Lakeshore had approved their share of the costs for the project.

**162-2019**

**Moved By** Richard Meloche

**Seconded By** Tom Bain

That the tender for the CWATS Active Transportation Pathway on County Road 2 be awarded to Rudak Excavating Inc. for a total tender amount of \$1,363,100.00 plus HST.

**Carried**

**11.9 Tender Summary Bridge Rehabilitation - B-20-49 Bridge on County Road 20 at Cedar Creek**

Report Number 2019-0814-IS-R022-JM, dated August 14, 2019 from Jane Mustac, Director of Infrastructure Services/County Engineer.

Ms. Mustac provided a summary of the report, the tender process and the results of the bids received. She noted the recommendation for Council to consider.

**163-2019**

**Moved By** Larry Snively

**Seconded By** Nelson Santos

That the tender for Project Number – 783-2019 – County Road 20 Bridge over Cedar Creek be awarded to Front Construction Industries Inc. for a total tender amount of \$381,560.00 plus HST.

**Carried**

**12. Unfinished Business**

**13. New Business**

**13.1 Closed Session Procedure**

Mr. Meloche questioned what the correct procedure would be for communicating items raised in a County Council Closed meeting, which needed to be reported to his municipal Council.

Ms. Birch indicated the with respect to the item discussed in the closed meeting that took place prior to the regular meeting on August 14th, County Council had provided direction in the Closed meeting for Administration to respond to Amherstburg Council so correspondence would be forwarded to the attention of their Clerk and it would be at their discretion whether they addressed the correspondence in open or closed session.

**13.2 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference**

Warden McNamara advised that many Council members would be attending the AMO Conference in Ottawa and that attendance was projected to be one of the best turnouts with the highest number of delegates registered.

### **13.3 McLeans Magazine**

Canada's Best Communities Report

Warden McNamara noted that McLean's Magazine recently reported their Canada's Best Communities listing. He noted that many of the municipalities within the region were ranked very high on the list not only in Ontario, but in all of Canada. He extended congratulations to everyone within those communities who work tirelessly to make them the best communities in which to live. He noted that the full report could be viewed at McLean's Magazine (<https://www.macleans.ca/best-communities-canada-2019-full-ranking-tool/>).

### **13.4 Public Reporting of Closed Meeting**

A Closed Meeting of Essex County Council was held at 6:45 p.m., prior to the regular Council meeting, pursuant to Section 239 (2) b and d of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Council provided Administration with direction on a personal matter of an identifiable individual and received an update on a labour relations matter.

## **14. Adoption of By-Laws**

### **164-2019**

**Moved By** Tom Bain

**Seconded By** Leo Meloche

That By-laws 29-2019 through 34-2019, having been read a first, second and third time, be finally passed and enacted.

**Carried**

### **14.1 By-law Number 29-2019**

A By-law to authorize the execution of a Road Use Agreement with Romney Energy Centre Limited Partnership by its general partner, Romney Energy Centre CP Inc.

**14.2 By-law Number 30-2019**

A By-law to amend By-law 51-2015 being a By-law executing an Agreement for the provision of 9-1-1 Central Emergency Reporting Bureau (CERB) Services between The Corporation of the County of Essex and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of The Province of Ontario as Represented by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services on behalf of the Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.)

**14.3 By-law Number 31-2019**

A By-law to authorize the execution of an Offer to Grant an Easement and to register an Easement in favour of Hydro One Networks Inc.

**14.4 By-law Number 32-2019**

A By-law to amend By-law 22-2019, being a By-law authorizing the allocation of funds to the Lower Tier municipalities in the County of Essex, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Agreement with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Transfer of Federal Gas Tax Funds.

**14.5 By-law Number 33-2019**

A By-law to authorize the execution of an Agreement between the Canadian Union of Public Employees Local 2974.2 and The Corporation of the County of Essex.

**14.6 By-law Number 34-2019**

A By-law to Confirm the Proceedings of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Essex. (August 14, 2019)

**15. Notice of Motion**

**16. Adjournment**

**165-2019**

**Moved By** Larry Verbeke

**Seconded By** Marc Bondy

That the Essex County Council meeting for August 14, 2019 be adjourned at 9:25 PM.

**Carried**

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Gary McNamara

Warden - County of Essex

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Mary Birch

Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk